



Youth Advisory Committee Meeting

Tuesday, November 10, 2015 9:00am

Present: Lauren Balkan, Sherri Goldberg, Ushindi Lewis, Dawn Lystad, Susan Pasternack, Evelyn Rosa, Amanda Whelan

Staff: Jody Bramson, Rick DeJesus, Janice Alexander, Nicole Montero, Dennis Miller

Approval of minutes from the August 11, 2015 Meeting

Dawn Lystad motioned to approve the minutes of the August 11, 2015 YAC meeting as distributed previously by email and Lauren Balkan seconded. The vote was called and the motion passed to approve the minutes as written.

WIOA Transition

The WIOA transition report is due to the state in January, 2016

YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Roles of Committee Members from WIA to WIOA

WIOA doesn't mandate a Youth Advisory Committee; MCOWD is keeping the committee, but it will be downsized. WIOA has renamed the YIC (Youth Investment Council) to YAC (Youth Advisory Committee). The Committee is seeking more employers and business representatives, to serve. This will round out the required additional work experience component. Public and nonprofit agencies (CBO's), public schools, and banks will also make up the committee. Ms. Bramson asked the YAC members for recommendations for employers to join the Youth Advisory Committee.

Change of Meeting Days for Future Meetings

The Youth Advisory Committee Meetings have been changed back to the first Tuesdays of the month and the 2016 Youth Advisory Committee Meetings schedule was handed out.

Youth One Stop Office Consolidation

The New Brunswick and Perth Amboy Youth One Stops have merged. The office is currently housed at 161 New Brunswick Avenue in Perth Amboy. Juan DeJesus (Rick) has relocated to that office. Rick, will start doing out reach recruitments. Dennis Miller is still the Youth Career Service Coordinator but is now been reassigned to the Business Development Unit located at 550 Jersey Avenue, New Brunswick. He will be working with Job Development for Youth and reporting to Nina Rios-Rivera, Deputy Director...

Agency Partnerships

WIOA wants all the agencies to start working together and start using each other's resources. This includes the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation, Human Services, Education as well as FBO's CBO's Private and Not for Profit Health Care Providers, etc., Under WIOA the participant can always return back to the program to request future services.

High School Drop Outs and Credentialing

WIOA, is heavily focused on youth/young adults that are in need of a high school equivalency diploma. This allows, training (credentialing). From June 30, 2015 to present, 42 students were reported as drop outs.

Work Experience

Ms. Bramson stated that 20% of the youth funds have to be used on work experience. The Youth Department needs more participants wanting to do work experience since most of the participants in the Youth Program receive employment after they finished their training. She stated the Youth Department needs to find worksite employers who only want to be worksites as well as worksites that are willing to offer permanent employment at the end of the program.

ITA's

The Youth Department was approved for 38 ITA's for program year 2015 – 2016.

Request for Proposal (RFP)

The Youth Department will release a Request for Proposal (RFP) for program year 2015 - 2016. They might do two RFP's for program year 2015 – 2016. One specifically for work experience and a general one that addresses the 14 elements under WIOA.

Financial Technical Assistance Update

The Youth Department was awarded financial literacy technical assistance called Youth Employment and Financial Capability through the federal government. It is for technical assistance, not money. The Youth Department will be meeting with the Federal Reserve and Banks to teach how to teach the youth how to be self-sufficient. The Youth Department wants to start networking with banks and financial institutions. Financial Technical Assistance is supplied by the Certified Federal Protection Bureau (CFPB) and their partners. The plan is to train designated youth staff to teach participants how to open a checking account, avoid bank fees, how to start their own business, to buy their own home, etc. Ms. Bramson stated four of the fourteen elements, financial literacy, entrepreneurship, mentorship, and leadership, will be covered through this initiative.

Calendars

Ricky DeJesus, the Youth One Stop Coordinator delivered all the Youth Calendars to the 9th grades in the Middlesex County School Districts.

Industry Tours

The Youth Department had four Industry Tours for Program year 2014 – 2015. The first Industry Tour for program year 2015 – 2016 was on November 5, 2015 at Rutgers. The tour was very successful. The next Industry Tour will be held at the Carpenters Union in Kenilworth and discuss apprenticeships and career opportunities in the construction fields.

Documentation Audit

The State audit that focuses on compliance and case management is scheduled for December. Date is to be determined.

Status of Programs

<u>PROGRAM</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
<u>MCC</u>	
<u>Work Readiness</u>	<u>17</u>
<u>Perth Amboy HSE</u>	<u>21</u>
<u>Edison HSE</u>	<u>17</u>
<u>Youth One Stop</u>	
<u>Perth Amboy</u>	<u>14</u>
<u>New Brunswick</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>PROGRAM</u>	<u>REFERRED</u>
<u>YES</u>	<u>4</u>

New Business

The Youth Employment Solutions Program (YES) name was changed to Entry Level Internships Training and Employment (ELITE) since the Federal Reserve already has a program called (YES) Youth Economic Solutions.

Sherri Goldberg, from the Jewish Renaissance Foundation stated that they are recruiting for their out of school program and are now accepting females in the program. They are starting two new programs. One called the "Renaissance Café" which will focus on hospitality and culinary training and another called "One Mike" which will offer a training program in the music industry. Ms. Goldberg stated they are having a hard time recruiting participants for their out of school program. The Jewish Renaissance Foundation serves participants between the ages of 17 – 25.

Susan Pasternack adjourned the meeting at 10:35.

The next meeting of the Youth Advisory Council is Tuesday, February 2, 2016